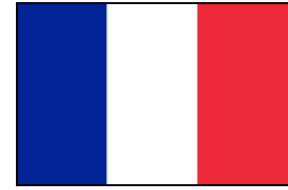




France

by *Levente Kardkovács*



Summary

France is located in Southwestern Europe. Due to its location, with ports in both the Atlantic and the Mediterranean the country has played a significant role in world politics via its colonies in Africa, North America, and the Asia-Pacific. After World War II, as one of its winners France became one of the five permanent members of the Security Council of the newly established United Nations.

Relations with Somalia

France-Somalia diplomatic and trade relations have been limited. The country did not have significant direct investment in Somalia, but it has supported the African nation via UN and EU initiatives. In November 2024 there was a high-level meeting between French and Somali officials in Paris. It focused on “strengthening cooperation in key areas such as security, migration, and economic development.” “Both sides emphasized Somalia’s sovereignty and stability, with France reaffirming its support for counterterrorism efforts, maritime security, and the African Union Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM).” France pledged close collaboration during Somalia’s tenure on the Security Council, and also expressed interest in reopening its embassy in

Mogadishu, which was well-received by the country’s delegation.

Involvement in Jubaland

France has not issued an official statement about the conflict between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the autonomous state of Jubaland. However, in early 2025 French president Emmanuel Macron met with Kenyan President William Ruto in Nairobi during an emergency meeting of the East African Community (EAC), where the security situation in Somalia was also on the agenda. France has expressed support for Kenya’s participation in the new African Union operation aimed at stabilizing Somalia.

